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SURPASSED.

The urgent gull strives down the sweeping wind;
The lark, aspiring, sings in viewless sky;
Yet I, who have so hoped and dreamed and loved—
How less than these am I!

O radiant gull, thy calm of tireless flight,
Unresting peace, be mine;
And thou Familiar of the skies, teach me
An ecstasy like thine!

—Grace Duffield Goodwin.

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THE PACIFIC

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IS THE JITNEY BUS ONE OF THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES?

The jitney bus is considerably in the public eye just now. Perhaps it is one of the signs of the times — one of the things indicating that marked changes are to occur ere long in the business and industrial world. It appears now that great corporations will be thrown into bankruptcy because of the losses that will be sustained through this unexpected competition. If the results should not be quite so disastrous as this in some instances, many men will be thrown out of employment for which they have been trained and in which they have long been engaged, and the resultant hardship and suffering will be great and widespread. The service rendered by these public service corporations, the street railways, will be so crippled as to be much less efficient than it has been, and the public in general will be effected also in this way.

Our sympathy is with the street railway companies and their employees. We dislike to see men who have invested their capital in these enterprises ruined, notwithstanding the fact that the public interests have not always been consulted by them. And it is painful to see workmen thus thrown out of employment.

The first hope of the present writer was that some way might be found to avert this disaster. Then came the thought that perhaps this was one of the things through which the people would be led to a solidarity of interest which is impossible in our existing industrial system.

Again have we a painful illustration of the fact that it is "a free pitch in"—"every man for himself, and the devil take the hindmost." And no one can tell who is going to be the hindmost. Suddenly, now and then, great solid business foundations are shaken, just as those of the street railways now are by the jitney bus, and men long at the head in the business world, find themselves at the tail end of things. It will be ever thus in competitive industry. And this and other such experiences may drive mankind to something other and better.

All around the world men have been asking themselves more and more as the years have gone on, Is the struggle worth while? Is there not a more satisfactory, a less wasteful, a more humane way of life? Is it not possible to work out a system in which men will not stand like hungry dogs ready to snatch all they can from others at every opportunity. Yes, it is done legitimately, but it is brutish nevertheless.

At a time when oil men, gasoline men, and automobile men—all self-interested—are rushing to the aid of the jitney bus men, lest the city officials take a position against them, the present writer has an increased longing for a day when there will be no such scrambling after the almighty dollar as is so characteristic of the age in which we are living. This world was meant for more of a solidarity of interest than that to which it has yet attained. Some time, somehow, it will come.

WORLD FEDERATION.

Among the persons suggesting world federation is Professor Charles P. Fagnani of Union Theological Seminary.

In an article in the New York Sun a few days ago Professor Fagnani said:

"Peace and disarmament are by-products. They will come as the result of the federation of the political units of the world, not before and not otherwise.

When two individuals begin to fight they are interfered with by a power superior to them. When two nations engage in war there exists at present no power greater than both of them to suppress their belligerence. But the day of the sovereign state has reached its daemmerung. The present war exhibits nationalism at its highest and at its worst. What is happening now must needs happen again unless the present independent, individual, sovereign states surrender their sovereignty by becoming members of the Federated States of the World.

"This will come about when a sufficient number of citizens in the different nations begin to realize that it is the only possible solution of the world's political problems, the only way to abolish armaments and war, and the logical and necessary continuation of a process that has been going on throughout the centuries. Practically all the political units of to-day are made up of smaller units formally independent and belligerent. The British Empire, the German Empire, the United States, the Swiss Republic, are the most prominent examples. The next immediate practical step that lies before us is the issuance of a call to a world constiutional convention. Out of this in due course will come a world constitution, a world president, legislature, capital, supreme court, land and sea police, official international language, international money, postage stamps, transportation and whatever else it is deemed desirable to internationalize.

"The only war possible under such conditions would be, conceivably, an occasional war of secession quickly suppressed.

"The frightful catastrophe of the present war was necessary to shock the world into consciousness of the permanent danger inherent in individualistic nationalism. This has had its day, has achieved its glories, but something bigger, safer, more glorious, more adequate for present needs is imperatively called for in these modern times, when almost all the relations of men are becoming necessarily internationalized.

"Let the peace societies, then, the league for limiting armaments and all other organizations whose object is the world's betterment, transform themselves into associations for the promotion of world federation, and may the United States of America have the glory of being the first nation to propose this plan to an expectant world."

PACIFIC COAST NOTES.

The Monitor states that there are about 900 Catholics at San Quentin, and that through the religious work among them many have been brought back into the fold and put on the path to good citizenship again." An organization known as "The Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus," has been instituted and it secured at the first meeting 360 members. "Sincere interest and enthusiasm have been invoked with the astonishing result that at the Christmas service over 50 per cent of the members of the society made their confessions and went to Holy Communion, nearly three times as many as in the preceding year; and of these many had not seen the inside of a church for years and years."

On a recent Sunday registration cards were distributed in the First Congregational Church of Oakland and the returns showed that the following named denominations were represented: Congregational, Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, Lutheran, Christian, Roman Catholic, Japanese Methodist, German Methodist, Peniel Mission, Unitarian, Salvation Army, Danish Lutheran, United Brethren, Methodist South. The states and countries represented were: California, Colorado, Minnesota, Nebraska, Washington, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Alaska, South Dakota, Maryland, England Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Missouri, Arkansas, Wales, Asia Minor, Oregon, Utah, Tennessee, Hawaii, Natal, S. A., Kansas, Nevada, Arizona, Rhode Island, New Zealand, Victoria, Australia, Japan, Harpoot, Turkey.

A recent announcement in the Pacific Christian Advocate of Portland presages that good time coming when religious denominations will no longer waste their substance by over-churching any community. It reads: "A union of Methodists and Presbyterian people at Nezperce, Idaho, is contemplated, with the idea of forming a good working church. The Methodist pastor lives in the Presbyterian manse, and the Methodist parsonage is used to house the primary department of the Sunday-school." Good working churches are needed in the thousands of other over-churched communities, and the over-zealous everywhere will in a few decades have to yield before the car of progress. Not many decades ago it would have been as easy to persuade the lion and the lamb to lie down together as to bring into union a Methodist and Presbyterian church. Truly, "the thoughts of men are widened by the process of the suns;" and that comes about because "through the ages one increasing purpose runs."

The Monitor, our Catholic contemporary, chronicles a recent manifestation of the spirit of fraternity in the state of Washington: "Rev. Oliver S. Welsh, one of the local Paulist Fathers, has just returned to San Francisco from a missionary trip through the State of Washington. While giving a mission in Cheney, Washington, the little Catholic church proved entirely too small and the Congregational minister offered the use of his church because of the interest Protestants were taking in the mission. Father Welsh gladly accepted the offer and delivered an entire course of non-Catholic lectures in the Congregational church. While in Cheney Father Welsh was invited to address the faculty and over four hundred non-Catholic students of the State Normal School there. This was a splendid opportunity for him to explain his work and the part the Church plays in education. Missions were given in Davenport, Medical Lake and Reardon and in each place the churches were crowded with non-Catholics and in one or two places the congregation was composed almost exclusively of Protestants."

Palo Alto set about a few weeks ago to meet the unemployment problem which faced that little city. The movement was started by the Church Federation. Committees visited the mayor, the chief of police and other city officials and sought their co-operation. At the request of the city clerk the brotherhoods of the city came together to discuss tentative plans. Backed by the Church Federation, the brotherhoods offered to build a municipal lodging house if the city would assume the responsibility for its management and the expense. This offer being met, the Labor Council was asked by the Church Federation to suspend its rule and to allow union men to work on the job along with other men. This was done. In two or three days a building which will accommodate 35 was ready. It is provided with a "lean-to" sheltered eating place, has a kitchen equipped with a big range and hot water boilers. There are toilet facilities and a shower bath, bunks are filled with straw, and the room is warmed by a stove. Men are housed and fed, for three hours' work, furnished by the city. A municipal employment bureau supplements the scheme, by which residents of Palo Alto are first served, then the wanderers of the "hostel" are drawn upon. The police department runs the plant. The plan operates to sift out the "want-workers" from the men who are determined to live by begging. The first five days of operation showed that a considerable majority of the trampers will have nothing to do with the work scheme. But something is accomplished when a sifting is possible and the worthy are kept from suffering. A cook was found among the wanderers—a young Englishman from an Engilsh sailing vessel. The experiment has not been costly to the city. Six hundred dollars were appropriated to finance the scheme through the three or four months of the crisis. Begging is now strictly prohibited. Prior to opening the "hostel," women fed as many as ten men at their back doors in a single day.

The Rev. Dr. Charles W. Wendte writes in the Christian Register: "The present writer may be, perhaps, forgiven a personal reminiscence in this connection. At the time of the Spanish-American War he preached to his Los Angeles, Cal., congregation a sermon in behalf of international peace, pleading for patience and fairness of judgment, and expressing the hope that pacific measures might still be found to prevent the evils of war, in accordance with the urgent advice of our American minister at the Court of Madrid. The Los Angeles Times, a paper of a very different character from that of its great London prototype and engaged in fomenting discord and international hatred, in a heated editorial denounced the preacher as 'a traitor to his country and to his God,' as 'the orang-outang of the American pulpit,' and in other choice epithets warning the community against him, giving orders that his name should never again be allowed to appear in its columns. The writer was not greatly affected by this tirade, though some of his church members were. A few days later an aged man with white locks and feeble steps came to his house and introduced himself as the only son of Dr. William Ellery Channing. He expressed his entire sympthy with the peace sentiments of the sermon under discussion, and to emphasize his feeling he presented the preacher with the manuscript of the great sermon which his father, Dr Channing, nearly a century before, had preached in behalf of universal peace and the deliverance of the Christian world from military despotism. This significant and generous act

more than compensated the preacher for the abuse that had been visited upon him. In later years he gave this much-prized manuscript to the library of the American Unitarian Association, where it may be handed down to future generations as one of its treasures."

GIFTS FOR EDUCATIONAL, RELIGIOUS, AND CHARITABLE PURPOSES.

The year 1914 was a record-breaking year in the amount given and bequeathed to educational, religious, and charitable institutions. Aside from what has been given to aid the sufferers from the war in Europe the sums given total about $220,000,000. This is about sixty million dollars more than the amount for 1913.

Among the large gifts were the following:

Thomas Campbell, to St. Louis University, $40,000,000.

Ford Company, Detroit, to employees, $10,000,000.

Andrew Carnegie, gift to United Kingdom Trust, $10,000,000.

Henry Phipps, New York, to various institutions, $15,000,000.

Mrs. Morris K. Jessup, New York, to various religious, educational, and charitable organizations, $7,969,000.

Andrew Carnegie, gift to churches for promotion of international peace, $2,000,000. Also to Carnegie Institute, $2,000,000.

Edwin Ginn of Boston, by will, to world's peace fund, $1,000,000.

James Deering, of Chicago, to Northwestern University, $1,000,000.

W. H. Dunwoody, Minneapolis, by will, to Dunwoody Institute, $2,000,000; to Society of Fine Arts, $1,000,000; to charity, $1,350.000.

To Cleveland Foundation by various donors $20,000,000.

Elizabeth Shippen, Philadelphia, by will to charities, $1.960,000.

Henry Ford, Detroit, to Detroit General Hospital, $3,000,000.

John D. Rockefeller, various gifts, $10,200,000.

Mrs. G. W. Hooper, San Francisco, to University of California, $2,000,000.

J. C. Martin, New York, by will, to missions $2-000,000.

W. H. Riggs, New York, to New York Metropolitan Museum, gift of armor, $5,000,000.

C. S. Johnson, Scranton, Pennsylvania, gift to schools, $1,000,000.

Francis A. Ogden, Houston, Texas, by will for education of boys, $1,000,000.

Liberty E. Holden, by will to Western Reserve University, $1,000,000.

Asa Candler, Atlanta, gift to Methodist University, $1,000,000.

Samuel Merritt, Port Chester, New York, by will to city, $3,000,000.

Anna T. Jeanes, Philadelphia, by will to Friend's Hospital, $2,000,000.

T. S. Brassaler, by will, to Catholic University of America, $1,000,000.

Morris Loeb, New York, by will to charity, $1,000,000. Among other gifts to charity, which we presume means to charitable institutions, was another of $1,150,000 by W. H. Penfield of New York; and one of $1,500,000 by W. H. Welch. Also by Mrs. Cutter, of New York, $1,050,000. Also from Crane estate of Chicago, $2,125,000.

SOME STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FOURTEEN.

During the year 1914 twenty-three persons were killed in football games and 24 in baseball. Bicycles and motorcycles killed 231, and Fourth of July celebrations, 45. The injured in football numbered 101; in baseball, 29; by bicycles and motorcycles, 793; in Fourth of July and other celebrations, 1,523.

Embezzlements.

The record of financial dishonesty shows an increase over that of 1913, being as reported to date $13,051,230, as compared with $11,679,191 in 1913 and $11,482,051 in 1912. These losses were distributed as follows: Banks, $5,871,743; miscellaneous, $5,622,784; agents, $1,973,772; forgeries, $622,901; public officials, $1,182,441; loan associations, $178,862; postal employees, $78,840. Banks, as usual, are the heaviest sufferers. In 1908 the money stolen amounted to $5,933,971; in 1910 it reached $6,262,185; in 1909, 1911, and 1912 it averaged about $3,000,000; but in 1914 it nearly reached the high mark of 1910. The figures cited can only be called approximate, since many peculations are never reported, some are incorrectly reported, and many are settled.

Executions.

The number of legal executions in 1914 shows a decrease, being but 74, as compared with 88 in 1913 and 145 in 1912. Of this total 40 executions took place in the south and 34 in the north. Twenty-three were colored and 51 white. With the exception of ten executed for rape all the crimes were murders. Classified by states the record is as follows: Arizona, 1; Alabama, 4; Arkansas, 8; California, 6; Connecticut, 4; Florida, 1; Georgia, 9; Indiana, 3; Illinois, 1; Massachusetts, 1; Mississippi, 5; Missouri, 1; New York, 12; New Jersey, 4; North Carolina, 2; Ohio, 2; Pennsylvania, 6; South Carolina, 2; Texas, 1; Vermont, 1.

Lynchings.

The number of lynchings in 1914 shows a small increase over that of 1913, being 54, as compared with 48 in 1913 and 64 in 1912.

The number of lynchings in the various states in 1914 was as follows: Alabama, 1; Arkansas, 2; Florida, 1; Georgia, 1; Illinois, 1; Kentucky, 11; Louisiana, 13; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 3; North Carolina, 1; New Mexico, 1; Oregon, 1; Oklahoma, 3; South Carolina, 4; Texas, 4. Of the total number, 50 were in the south and 2 in the north. Forty-nine were blacks and 5 whites. The crimes for which they were killed were as follows: Murder, 27; by night riders 11; rape, 5; murderous assault,3; unnamed causes, 2; suspicion of murder, 2; arson, 2; theft, 1; frightening women, 1. Four of the fifty-two were women.

Railroad Fatalities.

The year's record of fatalities and injuries upon steam, elevated and surface electric roads, is confined to passengers and trainmen. No account is made of the number killed in yards, or of those trespassing and stealing rides—figures which it is impossible to obtain for the reports of the Interstate Commerce Commission, are made up for the year ending in June. The number of passengers and trainment killed during the year (both steam and electric) was 6,340, and of injured 34,600. This is below the average, which has been computed as showing that about 8,000 persons are killed and 60,000 injured annually.

Homicides.

The number of deaths by personal violence of all kinds in 1914, as reported by telegraph and by newspapers in ev-

ery state of the union, was 8,251, as compared with 8,902 in 1913, 9,152 in 1912, and 8,957 in 1911. It must be taken into account that this record is not made from official reports of homicides that result in arrest and conviction. There is no way at present of securing such information. It includes deaths from every form of personal violence. Perhaps it would be more exact to characterize it as a record of deaths by violence. In the absence of any such official records it is impossible to make anything but a general classification; hence the large number which are set against 'quarerls," it being impossible to subdivide them under appropriate headings. The various causes generally stated were as follows: Quarrels, 3,282; Unnamed causes, 2,241; Jealousy, 543; Infanticide, 182; Liquor, 403; Resisting arrest, 216; Insanity, 181; Strikes, 51; Highwaymen killed, 124; Riots, 58; Criminal outrage, 8,

Twenty-three persons were killed by Black Hands. There were also fifteen cases of double murder, five of triple murder, one of quadruple, and in one case, the Spring Green, Wis., tragedy, an infuriated negro killed seven.

Suicides.

While the number of homicides has decreased, the record of self-murders in 1914 shows an increase. The total number is 13,965, as compared with 13,103 in 1911, 12,-981 in 1912, and 12,242 in 1911. The proportion of suicides as between men and women remains about the same, being 9,242 males and 4,723 females. Physicians, as usual, head the list among professional men, the number being 16, as compared with 34 in 1913, 40 in 1912, 27 in 1911, 51 in 1910, 27 in 1909, and 42 in 1908—a large decrease.

The most significant feature of these figures is the steady increase in the number of those who commit suicide because of ill health.

A WAR-TIME JOURNEY INTO BELGIUM.

Tyler Dennett.

The ten days previous to my return to New York I spent in Belgium. One hardly knows how or where to begin to describe what one heard and saw there. What I have written out in personal letters to my family sounds so much like the paragraphs which are appearing in the daily press in lieu of more definite news from the front that I scarcely dare offer to The Pacific more of the same kind of material. At the same time I feel that there is much information about present conditions in Belgium which ought to be kept continually before the people of America as long as the war lasts. After that one may hope that it can quickly be forgotten. I am attempting in this letter to make you see Belgium as I saw it, supplying you with the facts and impressions upon which I base my own conclusion. It is only fair to state that I did not go to Belgium with an entirely open mind. I was firmly persuaded that many of the stories of Belgian sufferings and Germany cruelties must be greatly overdrawn. I could not believe that they could possibly be true.

Friday, December fourth, was consumed in having my passport put in proper order. According to a new regulation it had to bear the photograph of the owner. Furthermore it must be vised at the American Embassy and have written upon its face the object of the proposed visit and the countries through which one intended to pass. The passport must also be stamped by the Belgian Consul and the Dutch Consul, for I was travelling to Belgium via Flushing. Then one had to be at Victoria Station at least an hour before the departure of the train for Folkestone to submit to a personal examination and a search of luggage by Scotland Yard detectives. There was a second examination, similar to the first, before passing onto the steamer. All this was required by the English authorities before one had permission to leave the country. These regulations are new. Six weeks ago when I went to France I was astonished at the ease with which one could pass between the two countries.

Even while we sat in the train at Victoria station I stumbled onto a piece of news which I am sure would be highly sensational reading if it could find its way into an English newspaper.I doubt if it ever gets there for it could not pass the censor. To appreciate how sensational it would be I must explain that there is a very stringent law in England against "trading with the enemy." Even the more conservative papers have carried leading articles to warn the public that this is an unforgivable crime and to urge the authorities to greater vigilance. I have seen a most sarcastic paragraph in one of the London dailies remarking that America has discovered the best way to prolong the war, viz, by continuing to trade with Germany. One might almost say that the public mind is at white heat over the alleged highly traitorous conduct of London firms who are supposed to have continued their trade relations with Germany.

It happened that I was seated in the dining car opposite an American of pronounced Jewish relationship. I am sure that all his grandfatherss and grandmothers were Jews and I doubt whether this gentleman spoke his first words in English. He has extraordinary familiarity with the German language as well as with Dutch. The popular pastime in travelling now is to compare passport papers. One sees strangers becoming acquainted this way in every public conveyance. Being Americans we naturally fell into conversation and with very few preliminaries my new friend began to show me his papers. The passport was similar to mine except for the fact that it showed that he had been several times in Germany since the beginning of the war. I expressed some surprise that he was passing back and forth so frequently between England and Germany. His card named him "American Buyer Amsterdam." Then he showed me his other documents among which were two which would make highly interesting reading for the British and German public. I cannot recall their exact words but they ran something after this manner: Although it is against the law to trade with Germany, the bearer is authorized by the British War Office to proceed to Germany and buy over seven hundred and fifty thousand shaving brushes and a large quantity of bronze powder. The permission was signed by a member of the Cabinet. This gentleman assured me that he never had made so much money in his life as since the war began and that he could sell many millions of equipment to the War Office beyond what he could secure, whether made in Germany or not. I have since learned from an equally reliable authority that the War Office is buying large quantities in Austria also. The moral of this tale is that England is unable to manufacture the complete equipment for her army. Even today she is dependent upon Germany factories.

We slept on the steamer Friday night and the next evening at dusk arrived in Flushing, having avoided the mines with which both coasts are now so well protected. I must have seen at least a dozen during the day from the deck of the steamer. Two hours out from Flushing we could hear

the distant booming of the guns bombarding the coast near Nieupoort. Saturday evening I spent in a miserable hotel at Rosendaal. Twenty-four hours later, having travelled by train, tram, carriage and on foot, I was in Brussels, the capital of Belgium.

The journey was not as difficult as I had been led to expect. A friendly citizen of Holland took me under his care on the train and he proved a most efficient and agreeable guide. The Dutch people cross the border as water runs through a sieve. My friend advised me to leave my "Times" behind me when we left the train at Antwerp. That was good advice for three minutes later we were being searched for English newspapers. One is liable to imprisonment for carrying such an article into Belgium. Nevertheless they may be purchased at five francs a copy in Brussels and the sailent paragraphs from each day's 'Times" are translated in French and Flemish and may be seen in almost any village in Belgium, that is, if one knows where to go to look for it and has the proper credentials of good-will. The printed newspapers of Belgium give only the German news mixed with the most subtle material for manufacturing pro-German sentiment among the inhabitants of the country. Some of them are quite amusing.

We did not stop long in Antwerp. One would not suppose, except for the presence of a large number of German officers on the streets, that any thing unusual is happening there. I was told that about fifteen hundred houses were destroyed during the bombardment. The business part of the city does not seem to have been injured. Having secured a carriage we started for Brussels via, Malines and Vilforte. Before we reached the battlefields it was dark and I saw very little of the destruction there until I returned by the same route a week later. The Cathedral at Malines seems to have been destroyed as to the interior, but the beautiful tower and the walls are standing. Already the workmen are busy repairing the roof. As we crossed the river Nethe my guide remarked that forty thousand Germans lost their lives there, and half as many Belgians. Of course I canot vouch for any of the figures given in this letter.

At Brussels I was taken to the hotel by another Belgian gentleman whom I had met on the way and introduced to the manager. I was just in time to get a long delayed bite to eat, having had nothing more than a sandwich since early morning. The restaurants and cafes all close at ten o'clock, Belgian time, which is nearly an hour later according to the official German time by which the city is governed. The customary distinction is 'German time,' according to which no loyal Belgian sets his watch, and "Christian time" which is forbidden for all public clocks. I walked boldly into the restaurant and ordered supper. The waiter whispered in my ear as he brought it, "We are waiting." I suppose he mistook me for an Englishman. There was always an element of aparent risk in traveling about Belgium. One never knew when he might be required to produce his passport for the satisfaction of some German officer.

Monday was another day devoted to passports. The ordinary pasport is sufficient to get on into Belgium. A special one has to be secured to leave the country. On this paper is described the exact route one may take as well as other information which will identify the bearer. The authorities did not like the looks of my American passport. On the back of it was stamped, "Laiseez passer." By this mark they knew I had been in France. By other marks they also knew that I had been in England. They were not satisfied as to my reasons in coming to Belgium. I had assured them I had come merely to hear the other side of the story that I might return to America to give a fair report of the war. After passing me on from one official to another until it seems to me I must have approached nearly to the comander-in-chief they agreed to give me a pass to return via Germany, suggesting that I go to Berlin. I declined this pass and went in search of an American official representative to help me wave the Stars and Stripes before their dazzled eyes. Fortunately I knew Mr. Hugh Gibson, the secretary of the Legation at Brussels. a Los Angeles man who has distinguished himself to an extraordinary degree by his fine service during these critical months. In the afternoon I returned to the passport office in a motor car with an American flag waving from the hood, properly accompanied, and secured the pass I wanted, to return through Holland passing through some of the most famous of the battle areas east of Brussels. The pass bears on the margin, "by special request" which became my talesman to keep me out of trouble, or rather, get me out of it.

The two following days I spent in the country east of Brussels and north of Namur. At Louvain we saw the first of the desolation which has been wrought and I returned to the hotel in Brussels almost sick from the sights and stories of those two days. My first glimpse of Louvain was the ruins of the University. Practically nothing is left except some shaky walls which threaten to fall at any moment into the already rubbish-filled street. Be it said to the credit of the invaders, the Hotel de Ville, one of the most beautiful structures I have ever seen, has been spared. The exquisite beauty of this monument only serves to highten the appreciation of the destruction all around it. The business street leading up toward the station contains hardly a single building intact. In a few places I noticed where the shop-keepers had erected little wooden booths in most of which sausages were displayed for sale. Men, women, children are now at work clearing away the debris and piling up the whitened bricks.

In the square facing the station there stands a large wooden cross to remind the traveller that here lie some German soldiers. I strongly suspect that these graves have been placed here for strategical reasons. They are the first spectacle to greet the eye of the stranger. It is here that the civil inhabitants of the city are supposed to have fired on the soldiers. These graves appear to be displayed as the explanation for what one is to see in the city. The inhabitants will tell you that here the German soldiers returning from an all day battle outside the city in which they supposed themselves to be defeated, were fired on by their comrades who mistook them for the enemy.

It is the boulevard where the fine residences stood which shows the worst evidences of the attentions of the Germans. Nearly every home is in ruins. One does not see any signs of battle save a shrapnel scarred wall in one of the side streets. These houses were burned. Later I talked with a judge who used to live on this boulevard. With the aid of his two young sons and seventeen-year-old daughter he was able to extinguish the fire at his house three times. The next time the soldiers fired on his daughter as she was pouring on water and the judge decided to retreat with his family, even though the house had been built by his great-grandfather and contained what were to his family, priceless treasures.

I came to Louvain prepared to discount the stories I had read in the papers in England. I will not weary you with a repetition of them. You have read these stories or similar ones. It may be that here and there a certain story is not entirely accurate, even that some have been invented. On the other hand I heard enough from the most reputable witnesses in Louvain and elsewhere to persuade me that the cruelties which have been inflicted upon the people of eastern and southern Belgium surpass in ingenuity and studied efficiency even the latest equipment of the German War Office. I had dinner in the home of one of the professors of the University. For two hours and a half I listened to the most exciting and pathetic account of the destruction of the city It was related with true Gaelic appreciation for the dramatic climaxes and held me almost breathless to the very end. I was compelled to say a hasty good-by. One must be in off the streets of Louvain at nine o'clock.

There are many towns and villages in Belgium which have suffered far worse than Louvain. It is only because of the priceless treasures of that city, that its destruction is now so infamous. Many of the smaller towns have actually been annihilated. The worst conditions exist in the south of the province of Luxembourg close to the French border. This district is so far away and so inaccessible that the reports are only just beginning to be made known. It appears that the smaller the village the more unbridled the license of the soldiers. The burning of houses, even the homes of the poorest peasants, is the least of the crimes. The worst, except isolated cases, will never be known. The priests have forbidden the women and the girls to tell their stories. The publication of them does no good and brings with it humiliation and shame. I will spare you the details. Some of them may be fabricated. Others I know to be true, that is, I know them as I know anything reported to me by reputable witnesses who satisfy my questions and commend themselves as gentlemen and honorable citizens. In some cases where I dared not believe all that was told me I went to Americans in Brussels whose responsibility we may all accept, only to find that I had been told the truth.

The Germans claim that the Belgians have deserved their fate, that they have merely been punished for having fired on the German troops as they entered the various towns and villages. The Belgians are equally assertive that the civil inhabitants did not shoot the soldiers. They claim that where German soldiers were shot they fell by bullets from the German guns. In some cases it is admitted that French and English soldiers did secret themselves in the houses of Belgians and took up the fight as opportunity offered from these vantage points. In other cases it is claimed that the Germans fired on each other in drunken quarrels. Assertion is countered by contradictive assertion. There seems to be no way of determining the truth except in those villages where it can be proved that all fire-arms were taken from the civilians by the civil authorities before the entry of the Germans. It is interesting to know that in East Prussia the German government issued an order instructing the civil population to do every thing in their power to obstruct the advance of the Russian armies, even to shooting at guards and sentinels in the dark.

Even if one were to allow that in every village that was burned and ravaged there is a well proven instance where a civilian shot a soldier, even then one fails to find any fair quid pro quo in the subsequent slaughter of old men, women and little children. The priests seem to have been the objects of special hatred. I inquired about this in some detail. Some claimed that the Germans selected the priests, to be tortured and shot; others think that they merely shared in the general persecution of all prominent people. I asked one most reliable gentleman in Brussels about this. He replied with some care, taking pains to preface his remarks with the statement that he is not a Catholic, and I judge from the way he spoke, not even a Catholic sympathizer. He concluded by telling of a friend of his who had heard a story of the torture of a priest before his people and did not credit it. Later this friend was passing through that village and came upon a grave which had not been made sufficiently deep. There are many such. He stopped to disinter the bodies and deepen the grave. He found the body of the priest of the village lying between two Belgian soldiers. His nose and ears had been cut off, just as had been reported. I know of another instance where a priest begged the soldiers not to shoot the fathers of little children. The response was to shoot the men in the presence of their wives and to take the priest with them for two days march and then hang him.

For an entire week I went from place to place and such stories, many of them far more horrible in their details, poured into my ears. I tried not to be credulous, even to be skpetical. As I said before, perhaps some of them are not true, but I know that others are. The experiences of that week were so terrible that since coming away I have often waked in the middle of the night from some dream woven out of the scenes and tales of horror. I write with some reluctance of what I have seen. Many will think it might better be forgotten immediately, least of all passed on for others. Infamies ought not to be allowed to become famous. I have two reasons for wishing you to know how these things have seemed to an eye witness. In the first place you must have a picture of the desolation of the country to lend force to the appeal for relief for Belgium. Up to the present time the country has been able to meet the demands both for its own people and for the enormous war levies. From the first of the year I am told by well informed citizens who are now engaged in the relief work the civil population of Belgium will be practically entirely dependent upon the supplies which are to be sent in from the outside. Every necessary precaution is being taken to insure that the food sent from America will directly reach the people who need it and not be diverted to feed the German army. In the second place there seems to be the greatest need that American public opinion be kept continually inflamed by the reported facts in order that its pressure may be constantly brought to bear upon the German military authorities.

One fears that the worst of Belgium's sufferings are not yet over. How much of what now remains will be left in Belgium if the Germans are forced to retreat farther eastward and across the Rhine? This is the question I was continually asking myself. Antwerp has been only partially destroyed. Brussels has not been touched. There are ten thousand soldiers in each of these cities. The most reasonable explanation for the havoc in eastern Belgium is that the invaders were angry because they had been delayed twelve days at Liege. What will these same soldiers do if they are compelled to evacuate Antwerp and Brussels? The Germans are very sensitive to American public opinion. They are seking to suppress the damaging truths which might reach America. An American passport waved in the face of a sentinel will accomplish wonders in the way

of a gracious response. Many people feel that Brussels would have suffered the fate of Louvain but for the presence of the American Legation. The United States must still stand guard over helples Belgium until the country is free. Therefore I write of things I would wish to forget. Much depends on the continued pressure of American public sentiment. If Germany is the home of culture and the Holy Spirit let her remember the condemnation which was once meted out to that nation of old who only, above all the nations of the world, was known of God.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LONG BEACH.

It seems only fitting that sunny Southern California, which Charles Dudley Warner called "Our Italy," should have at least one example of that characteristic type of church architecture for which Italy is famous, the Romanesque. The graceful campanile, the magnaficent rose windows, the harmonious blending of color, the fine lines of the new building which the Congregational Church of Long Beach has just erected, are reminiscent of the Italian Romanesque architecture at its best. The building is constructed of red pressed brick laid in most elaborate and beautiful patterns, one of the finest pieces of brick work in

the West. It is trimmed with cream terra cotta in the typically rich Romanesque designs. The most striking feature of the church exterior is the campanile, rising 110 feet from the pavement, in whose handsome belfry it is hoped some day to install a fine set of chimes.

Entering the church at the corner under the tower one finds himself in the main vestibule of the church, with its drop beam ceiling, walls of gray brick and marble floor. From this vestibule a broad stairway leads to the gallery entrance, and above this occupying the upper portion of the tower is a cozy Boys' Club Room with a jolly fireplace, bookcases, built- in seats; and on a still higher level a fine Boy's Game Room commanding a magnificent view of the city and the ocean.

The Foyer.

Passing through the vestibule up a short flight of steps one enters.

The Foyer.

With its beautiful vaulted ceilings, its warm coloring of walls and carpets, and its built-in seats this entrance to the church fairly speaks a cordial welcome to all who come. Swing doors at the farther end of the foyer open into the parish house portion of the church; and a series of handsome glass doors and partitions leaded in ecclesiastical designs afford both view and [illegible] auditorium.

Church Auditorium.

The first impression of this room is caused by its unusual height, the great roof trusses that support the ceiling being 55 feet above the floor. There is a feeling of dignity and impressiveness that recalls some of the great cathedrals of Europe. Three large galleries and the lower floor are seated with pews, the capacity of the entire room being about 1500. The walls are wainscoted in heavy panels and all the woodwork of the interior and pews is mahogony. The pew ends are unusual in design, being exact reproduction of those found in St. Mark's of Venice. Ceiling, walls, windows, woodwork, carpet, all are in the various tones of autumn browns. The pulpit platform and choir gallery occupy the south end of the auditorium, the choir loft having a seating capacity of about thirty-five. Above this gallery rises the front of the Hathaway Memorial Organ.

This organ was the gift of Miss Martha Hathaway of Claremont, a sister of Mrs. Jotham Bixby, Sr., and is a memorial to their father, Rev. George Whitefield Hathaway, a prominent minister of the Congregational Church and 27 years pastor of the Parish Church of Bloomfield, Maine.

The auditorium is lighted by a set of beautiful chandeliers in Romanesque designs and of the modern semi-indirect type. It is warmed by steam-heat and equipped with an up-to-date ventilating plant. One of the most notable feat-

The Auditorium.

ures of this room is the unusually harmonious scheme of

The Art-Glass Windows.

The three great rose-windows above the gallery and six picture windows below the gallery are worthy of special mention.

This window has at its center the inscription 'Praise Ye the Lord," Psalm 148, and every alternate circle contains two beautiful angel heads looking toward this center in an attitude of praise.

The north rose window is conventional in character, using the Romanesque designs in its panels.

Unusually interesting is this symbolic window. The center has the endless knot, the symbol of eternity. The outer circles contain the traditional symbols of the apostles and the gospels. Beginning at the left hand axis of the window, where the child is the symbol of the Gospel of Matthew, and following the circles as in the movement of the hands of a clock the symbols are as follows: 1. A purse, St. Matthew; 2. St. Andrew's Cross, St. Andrew; 3. A. Chalice, St. John; 4. The lion, the Gospel of Mark; 5. A lance, St. Matthias; 6. A knife, St. Bartholomew; 7. The keys, St. Peter; 8. The ox, The Gospel of Luke; 9. A saw, St. Simon; 10. A builder's square, St. Thomas; 11. A crosier, St. Philip; 12. The eagle, The Gospel of John; 13. A halberd, St. Thaddeus; 14. A sword, St. James Major; 15. A club, St. James Minor.

On the east side of the main auditorium is a group of three picture windows which has a single motif, the representation of Jesus as the Light of the World. The center window, "The Light of the World," represents Jesus as standing on an eminence with hand upraised while over the distant mountains the sun is just rising. Especially beautiful are the two kneeling figures at the lower part of the window representing "night" and "morning." This window is the gift of the pastor's wife in memory of her mother, Sarah Bentley Mears. On the left and right of this center window are two companion windows, kneeling angel figures holding large tablets between their wings. The window on the left represents the Old Testament looking forward to Jesus, and the tablet is inscribed "The nations shall come to thy light." (Isa. 60:3.) It is given by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gaus, in memory of their son Fred B. Gaus. The window on the right represents the New Testament looking back to Jesus and its tablet is inscribed, "And the life was the light of men" (John 1:41.) It was the gift of the Bible Review Class.

In the foyer is another group of beautiful windows. The one on the left is symbolic, "The River of Life." The center window is "The Angel of the Resurrection," and was the gift of the Ladies' Aid Society. The right-hand window represents "The Vine and the Branches," and was given by the Louise P. Frary Bible Class in honor of their beloved teacher.

Under the choir gallery are storerooms and passages, and a commodious and complete Deacons' Room especially fitted for the preparation of the Communion Service and to be used as well for the meetings of the Board. There is also a Missionary Room, furnished with missionary library, pictures and illustrative material for the use of the Missionary Department of the Sunday School. At the left of the pulpit swing doors open into an entrance hall, provided on the exterior with an inclined plane for wheel chairs. Above this entrance hall is a cosy and thoroughy equipped choir room.

Returning now to the foyer we pass thence into the Parish House. Heavy brick partitions completely divide this part of the building from the main auditorium. This is one of the distinctive features of the building. An ample entrance hall gives access to all the departments and activities of the Parish House. The first of these is the

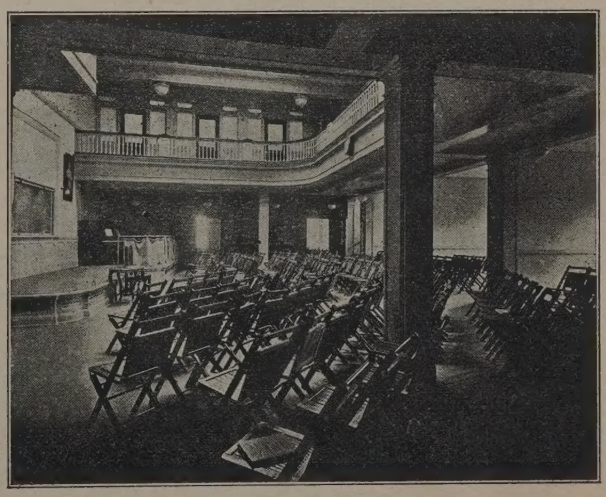
Christian Endeavor Room.

This room with its dainty coloring, its fine fireplace, its handsome fixtures and beautiful windows, medallioned with the C. E. symbol is one of the most attractive features of the building and is the especial delight of the young people.

Through swing doors we next pass into

The Parish House Auditorium.

Bright, warm, brilliantly lighted by ample windows and beautiful art-glass skylights, this room is fitted to be the center of the young life of the church. Two large Bible class-rooms and four smaller class-rooms open out of the main assembly room, while a visitor's gallery affords access to the many class-rooms on the upper floor. All class-rooms have glass doors and partitions affording ample light but making them sound-proof. All are equipped with tables, maps and blackboards. At the northwest corner of



Parish House Auditorium.

the upper floor are located the

Church Parlors.

Handsomely finished in mahogany, with blue-tiled fireplace, blue carpet and walls of cream and blue and gold and with unusually beautiful medallioned windows looking out over the treetops, this is the finest room in the church. Opening out of one corner is a kitchenette for serving afternoon tea. Next to these parlors is the Sewing Room for the use of the women's societies. At the southeast corner of this same upper floor is the Church Office and the

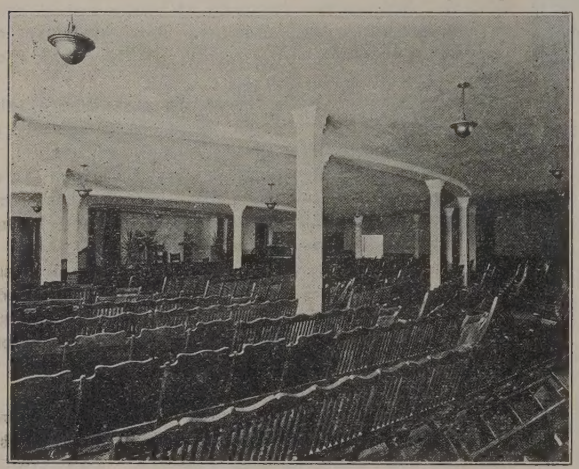
Pastor's Study.

This room has a fine bay window on the south, built-in bookcases, large fireplace and every convenience.

Returning again to the entrance hall of the Parish House a broad staircase leads to the lower floor of the building. Here is located the

Primary Department.

A large assembly room with walls of a cheerful, sunlight



Dining Room.

color, made attractive by pictures, and equipped with every modern appliance is the home of the children. Two classrooms open out of this assembly room, and at one corner is the Kindergarten Room with built-in seats just large enough for the little tots and a glorious brick fireplace where a glowing fire adds the las touch of cheerfulness.

Passing down a long corridor past the Ladies Dressing Room we come to the

Kitchen.

This room is the delight of every good housewife's heart and is as complete as careful planning could make it. It is furnished with great sinks for dish washing and the preparation of vegetables, with a large hot-blast hotel range, ample tables and cupboards, a dish warmer, steam table and battery of coffee-urns. Opening out of one end is the Serving Room, planned to take care of the service of salads, deserts and ice-cream. From this and the kitchen swing doors open into the

Dining Room.

This room is so arranged that by the use of heavy curtains it may be divided into a large and small dining room. The small dining room has a seating capacity of 100 and is provided with its own complete smaller kitchen. On Sundays it is used by the Brotherhood Class of the Sunday School. A touch of cheer is added to the large dining room by a massive brick fireplace with its huge andirons. Both dining rooms may be thrown together and can serve 500 people at once. This room is also planned for use of entertainments and lectures and has a seating capacity of over 1000. At one end is a stage provided with curtain, footlights and dressing-rooms. Behind this stage are the power rooms, ventilating plant, furnaces and storage rooms.

There are many little touches of convenience and arrangement that must be seen to be appreciated and that help to make this church unusually complete, such as patent umbrella-racks, flower room, call-bell system, interphone system, drinking-fountain, audiphones for the deaf, and the like. In one respect the building is unique. Three services could be held in the building at the same time without disturbing each other. This feature will be of great value to any assembly or convention which may be held in the church.

To this church building as a whole one adjective is applied by all who have seen it, "complete."

Much is due to the prolonged and untiring efforts of Mr. H. P. Barbour, chairman of the building committee and his associates; the earnest labors of the trustees and, particularly, those of pastor Booth. To Mr. Booth is due, in collaboration with the architect, the general planning of the structure and its exceedingly wise adaptation of design, arrangements and the interior tints. His work was incessant throughout all the past year; now his reward is great.

The church may fairly be said to be the masterpiece of the architect, Mr. H. M. Patterson.

POMONA COLLEGE AND THE MILLION DOLLAR CAMPAIGN.

Actually, Pomona is engaged in the business of securing $1,100,000, and has only until April 1, 1915 in which to realize this sum. At the annual dinner of the Men's Union of Claremont on New Year's eve, President Blaisdell aroused great enthusiasm when he announced that the million dollar mark had been reached. While this leaves $100,000 to be provided before the $150,000 pledged by the General Education Board of New York is forthcoming, it does not mean the reaching of the goal.

Pomona College is constantly outgrowing its boundaries. New buildings are greatly needed. An opportunity is presented to persons who aspire to service to build and equip a science hall, or woman's building, or a chapel, or an administration building, or a gymnasium. The scholarly and Christian standards of Pomona are attracting students in ever increasing numbers. Leaders are being raised up here who will tell in the next generation. All of which requires funds well beyond the present resources of the College.

Interest is growing throughout California in the effort to increase the sum of money given in June 1914 for the establishing of a home in Claremont which might be occupied gratis by some misionary of distinction. Advantage might thus be taken of the services of such a person for lectures in the College and informal talks to interested groups. By organizing such work it would be possible to render a large service to missionaries seeking rest and open the way for the education of children who must be sent to America for this purpose.

Dr. Charles B. Sumner, who more nearly than any other

person approaches the distinction of being the father of Pomona College, has just brought out a volume entitled: "The Story of Pomona College." Dr. Sumner has been intimately connected with the College since its organization and the story which he tells is another proof of the miracle working capacity of consecrated men who build in faith.

Among the Churches.

Berkeley, First.—At the last communion service 22 persons were received to membership, 9 uniting on confession.

Sacramento.—The Chinese Mission in Sacramento reports four young men led to repentance during December.

Los Angeles.—To the Bethlehem Japanese church in Los Angeles six young men were added on confession and baptism at its New Year's communion.

Los Angeles.—The First Japanese Congregational church of Los Angeles, a branch of the fiirst American church, reports six young men added to it on confession at its last communion season.

Redlands.—Considerable interest was manifested recently in the New Year's sermon preached by the pastor, Rev. Herbert A. Jump, on the question, "What Does Our City Need Most in 1915?" In his sermon he brought together and commented upon fifty answers to this question which he had gathered from the mayor, the bank director, the superintendent of schools, the real estate agent, the socialist, the high school girl, the popcorn peddler, the policeman, the newsboy on the street, and other representative individuals. The local newspapers printed it in full and made editorial comment.

Bakersfield.—The First Church held its annual supper and business meeting Friday evening, Jan. 8th. Notwithstanding a rainy evening, eighty-five people partook of the appetizing meal prepared by the ladies, and then adjourned to the auditorium, where the program followed. This consisted of music, reports of all departments of church work, and election of new officers. There have been thirty accessions during the year, making this one of the best. Some valuable members have been lost by removal to other cities. In every department all bills were reported paid, with a small balance on hand, making a good record for the year, in spite of the financial depression.

Paradise.—The annual meeting of the church was held the last evening of the year. The Ladies' Aid provided supper from six to eight. The business meeting followed at which reports were read from the various departments of church work. The clerk reported sixty-one members on the church roll. Nine new members, among whom were some of the most influential men in town, were then voted in, making the membership the largest in the history of the church. The report on benevolences showed an excess of fifty per cent above our apportionment. A debate by the men's league, which was organized by Mr. Whittaker and is composed of about thirty members, followed the business meeting. The evening closed with a devotional service from eleven to twelve, the subject of which was, What does your faith mean to you? Over one hundred and fifty were present at these services.

Auburn.—The church held its annual meeting on Saturday evening, Jan. 9th, preceded by a supper in the guild room, at which fifty people sat down. The reports showed a healthy condition notwithstanding considerable weakening of the church by recent deaths and removals. A most remarkable report was that of the Ladies' Guild which showed that during the past year of financial depression and disturbance the Guild had raised and expended over $700. Part of this was in the way of the usual expenses of the church, but the largest part was for improvements made to the building. Like many of our other small churches Auburn suffers from the continual removal of its best young people, who go away for school or business reasons, but the Endeavor Society is maintained and its meetings are helpful. Rev. George H. DeKay is supplying until a pastor can be settled. Attendance at services is well sustained.

Loomis.—On the evening of the 29th of December the annual meeting of the church in Loomis was held. About sixty of the members enjoyed the bountiful supper which was provided by the ladies of the church. After the supper several very timely talks were enjoyed. The general theme was "The Church and the Community." There was a general feeling that the church ought to mean more to the community and do more for it. In pursuance of this thought the church voted heartily to retain the "Club Rooms" which have been used heretofore by the Young People's Club. Reports were very encouraging. The financial condition is good and all departments of the work are showing a healthy development. Last Sunday six were received into the church on confession of faith, making 14 additions in the little more than three months since the coming of Rev. A. E. Bradstreet as pastor.

Suisun.—The Suisun church held the regular annual meeting on Saturday, the 9th, in the church auditorium. There was a goodly number present, and a most excellent spirit prevailed. The record of the church for 1914 was creditable and the outlook for 1915 hopeful. The finances of the church had been managed in a most efficient manner, and the report of the treasurer showed all bills paid to December 31, 1914, and a small surplus for the new year. The Ladies' Aid, as for many years, presented a remarkable report of work done and the money contributed to the use of the church. The most striking feature of the financial phase of the church achievement for the past year was the report on benevolence, which showed the apportionment for our Seven Societies all paid in full and a good sum in addition, besides a creditable amount for other Congregational interests and undenominational calls for help. The church enters upon the new year with fresh courage and a high purpose for larger things.

Campbell.—For the first time in its history, the Congregational church of Campbell held its annual meeting in January instead of in April as heretofore; the change in date having been decided upon at the last annual meeting, to make the church year coincide with the calendar year. In spite of the rain, more were present than last April, when orchard work was on. The long tables were all filled at the supper hour, where the usual sumptuous spread was enjoyed. At the business meeting following, the pastor, Rev. Geo. E. Atkinson, acted as moderator. This is the twelfth annual meeting at which Mr. Atkinson has presided as pastor of the Campbell church, and that he is content to remain with us is a source of gratification to his people, to whom both himself and his wife are endeared by many pleasant ties. The reports from all departments of church work showed a most satisfactory and encouraging condition, although all expressed themselves as wishing to do

more and better work for the Master during the coming year. A committee was selected to draft a proposed constitution and by-laws,to be submitted at a called meeting of the church later on. Arrangements are under way with the athletic department of the San Jose Y. M. C. A. for an instructor to come out one night a week and direct the boys in the basement gymnasium of the church.

Oakland, First.—The report of the church clerk for 1914, shows that 191 names were taken from the roll during the year, many whose addresses were unknown being placed on the retired list. The membership January 1, 1915, was 1574. The report of the pastor's assistant and church school superintendent reads: "As we look back over the Church School for the past year, we cannot but feel encouraged. There has been no phenomenal growth but a steady increase and development in all departments. Much of the credit is due to the faithfulness of teachers and officers. There is a fine spirit of loyalty and co-operation among both teachers and scholars, and through the development of this spirit we hope in a measure to overcome the handicap caused by the lack of modern equipment. Probably no church activity has responded more vigorously to the inspiration of Dr. Van Horn's coming than the Church School. The interest and response of some of the church members has been such as would gladden the heart of any superintendent. All departments have advanced but the most marked progress has been in the adult and senior departments. Two splendid organized adult classes and the high school classes give great promise. The offerings and the average attendance are steadily increasing. Two teacher-training classes are conducted by the superintendent." The total Sunday-school enrollment is 511. The C. E. society has a membership of 52.

Alameda.—The annual meeting was held Wednesday evening of last week. It was preceded by a dinner of which not less than 225 persons partook. The report of the church clerk showed a membership of 309, twenty-eight persons having been received during the year. The report of the treasurer stated that, $4,377 had been expended in current current expenses; and that there had been raised for benevolences $803. The conference apportionment was met in full. The Sunday-school had a gain of 47 during the year. Much credit for growth and increased interest in the Sunday-school was given to Mr. Kenyon Scudder, the superintendent, and a son of a former pastor—the Rev. W. W. Scudder of Seattle. The primary department has increased from 12 to 35, with a regular attendance of 33. The attendance at the C. E. Society meetings is usually about 25. There is a most excellent work among the boys. The men generally out-number the women at the preaching services. At the mid-week meetings this is markedly so. At the annual meeting last week the Rev. F. H. Maar who visited the church recently was quoted as having said that the choir was the best behaved and the most devout of any he had ever seen. Many times during the evening tribute was paid to the earnest and efficient work of Mr. Mears, the pastor.

ANNUAL MEETING AT LONG BEACH.

The Annual Meeting of the Long Beach Church, held January 6, in the Parish House, was of exceptional importance. Coming directly after the week devoted to the dedication of the new church, it seemed as if every report from the various organizations was sure charged with optimism and overflowing with thanksgiving.

The report of the building committee was presented in detail, and the committee discharged; the trustees told of their past difficulties and of the favorable adjustment of financial matters; the board of deacons related an account of interesting meetings, closer relations and hopeful aspects of the enlarged church life. Church membership now enrolls 511, a net gain in the year of 101.

The Sunday school is growing, the Pastor's Bible Review class of young people having 82 members; Christian Endeavor showed a marvellous gain; Missionary interest was maintained, while the Ladies' Aid and the Guild presented reports of their constant and enthusiastic labors in the twelve months. A new men's organization, called the Washington Gladden Club, gives promise of extended usefulness.

Trustees, building committee and various warm friends of the church were remembered by a vote of thanks.

Pastor Henry Kendall Booth, who has greatly endeared himself to the people by his indefatigable efforts in the planning and construction of the church edifice, as well as in numberless other ways, summed up the year's work and forecast that of the one to come. Emphasizing the importance of strong social bonds; urging that each member should find some particular work to do, he voiced the assurance that the consecrated life in union strong of pastor and people would yield a rich harvest in the year to come.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, PASADENA.

Rev. Fred Staff, who until recently ministered to the church at Santa Ana, preached at both services, Dec. 27. Dr. Fox having been called to Long Beach on that date to deliver the dedicatory sermon. On the 28th, nearly fifty members went down to Long Beach in a special car to attend the meting of the Congregational Club.

The twenty-ninth annual supper business meeting of the church was held Jan. 6, with an attendance larger than that of any previous meeting. The clerk's report showed 86 accessions for the year, 20 of these by confession, making a net gain of 67. This gives a total mebership Jan. 1st, of 682.

The Men's Club reported a membership of 125. This organization has followed the plan of the Women's Societies in dividing its members into groups, each of which is expected to work once during the year in providing the monthly supper of the club, their membership fee of $1 meeting the expense.

The Women's Societies showed about the same paid up membership as the Men's Club, with a somewhat larger attendance at the meetings.

Both Missionary and Woman's Church Aid meetings coming on the same day, alternating between forenoon and afternoon sessions, practically every woman in the church who is able to attend either is actively interested in both. A new feature of the work of the Missionary society is the forming of Mission Study classes, several groups just beginning the study of as many text books.

The Y. P. S. C. E. reported a membership of 45, Intermediates 26 and Juniors including waiting list and Cradle Roll 67.

The Bible School is rapidly becoming one of the strongest features of the work of First Church with a membership of about 450 outside of the Home Department and Cradle Roll which number together about 100, the school has an average attendance of over 300. Large Bible classes both of men and of women show increasing growth and strength in the adult department. Especially encourag-

ing is the interest in missions, most of the classes having undertaken some special work, bringing the total amount contributed by the school for various benevolences up to $40. Like the engine room in a great steamer is the monthly session of the teachers and officers of the school as they gather for a supper and conference together.

In the matter of finances, the church feels that it is a cause for gratitude that in times like these the year could be closed without a deficit. Nearly $14,000 was raised during the year for all purposes, $4,400 of this amount having been given for various benevolent work. Another cause for gratitude is the happy relationship between pastor and people, both Dr. Fox and his congregation feeling that they enter upon a New Year rich in promise of exceptional blessing.

L. M. A.

ANNUAL MEETING OF FOURTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF OAKLAND.

On Wednesday evening of last week, the annual meeting was held in the auditorium of the church there being in attendance about one hundred and fifty persons interested to hear the reports which revealed a most gratifying condition in all departments. The finances are sound—the fellowship most genial and spiritual grace is keenly perceptible.

Rev. Roy H. Campbell, pastor, presided at the business meeting. Mr. Campbell preached his first sermon as pastor of Fourth Church on December sixth, since which time his ability combined with energetic work has served to established a splendid activity throughout the church.

The Board of Directors, having presented a budget for 1915 asking for a large increase in the amount of money to be raised by subscriptions sufficient to defray all expenses during the current year, reported that several hundred dollars more than the required sum had been subscribed.

Mr. E. T. Leiter read a most interesting paper giving the history of the life of the church since its organization by Rev. Wm. H. Cooke, naming its several pastors and citing the successive changes and conditions instrumental in establishing Fourth Church in its present location and with its present pastor. Mr. Leiter presented the church with a fine portrait of Rev. Mr. Cooke, which gift was graciously received for the church by the pastor, Mr. Campbell.

The Ladies' Aid Society (or Willing Workers as they were originally called and by which name the society proposes to be known) raised the first money for the Fourth Congregational Church, a fact brought to light in the reading of the church history. The Willing Workers will now finance some church improvements the beginning of 1915.

At the close of the business meeting the supper table afforded an apportunity for fellowship and social enjoyment. Mr. George Leiter acted as toastmaster receiving whole hearted responses from those called upon to speak.

Mr. Miller of the Boulevard Church, "drifted in." Mr. Miller is always a welcome and gracious guest whose refinement of soul is easily discernible. His remarks were well received.

Rev. F. H. Maar inspired his hearers with some of his own enthusiasm in regard to the holding of a Peace Jubilee in 1915, and to this end the following resolution was adopted:

That we, the men of the Fourth Congregational Church of Oakland, consider April 9, 1915, a day that ought to be observed in the interests of the promotion of peace. On that day 50 years ago General Lee met General Grant in front of Appomattox court house and the latter gave utterance to the historic words, 'Let us have peace.' "Resolved, further, that we do all in our power to enlist clubs and organizations of all kinds in the city of Oakland to join in the fitting observance of this day."

The work of this church being now well organized and the activities well underway in the hands of reliable committees we feel satisfied that the close of the year will witness its accomplishments.

A large increase in membership is promised at the Easter Communion service, a number having already signified their intention of uniting with us.

NOTES AND PERSONALS.

Next Monday at the meeting of the Congregational ministers of San Francisco and vicinity the hour will be given to "Efficiency," the Rev. G. D. Yoakum, chairman of the Efficiency Committee of the Northern California Conference leading.

The engagement of Rev. C. A. Stone, pastor at Martinez, and Miss Elinor Cowan, of Selma, has been announced. Miss Cowan is a daughter of the Rev. Dr. Cowan, for many years on the staff of the Christian Endeavor World, and who, although now residing at Kohala, Hawaii, continues his connection with that paper.

A council of the churches of Oakland, Alameda, and Berkeley, has been called to meet in Plymouth Church, Oakland, on Thursday of next week at five o'clock for the examination of Mr. Dwight J. Bradley for ordination. The Rev. Dr. Brooks has been asked to give the sermon at the evening services, to which the public is invited.

The Rev. Frank E. Knopf of Austin, Minnesota, is a guest of the editor of The Pacific. He has had highly successful pastorates at Elkhart, Indiana; Cheyenne, Wyoming, and at Austin, Minnesota. If some church on the Pacific Coast were to call Mr. Knopf and secure him as pastor our Congregationalism here would have a desirable acquisition. There is none more deserving of hearty commendation. The present writer knows, for he listened to his preaching for a year.

WASHINGTON CHURCH NOTES.

Jonathan Edwards.

Spokane.—The Corbin Park church had its annual meeting this week. All reports indicated wholesome progress, and that all departments are in good working order. The membership has been materially increased during the year, nearly a score receiving the last communion. Rev. Carl H. Veazie has proved himself especially acceptable and efficient as a pastor and is one of the most promising of our young ministers.

Pilgrim Church had its annual meeting this week, and although it had been without a pastor for a month, and the new one only just entering on his work, the reports were encouraging. There has been a signal increase in the Sunday school.

Walla Walla.—The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the first church of Walla Walla, the first Congregational church in the state, which closed last Sunday, was an event of unusual interest. We all rejoice in the achievements of this mother church, one of the

most substantial and extensive in its influence in the state. Among the former pastors present and participating were Rev. E. R. Loomis, Olympia, Wash., and Dr. R. C. Brooks, Berkeley, Cal. Rev. Elvirah Cobleigh, the widow of Rev. N. F. Cobleigh, the second pastor of the church, participated. A paper prepared by Mr. Edwin Eells, of Tacoma, the only survivor of the charter members, was read. It was the privilege of the writer to be acquainted with all the ministers of the church, from the founder, the brilliant and courageous Rev. P. B. Chamberlain, to the present erudite Dr. White. I count them all among the best of the many excellent servants of Jesus Christ I have known in this great northwestern country. We all congratulate the church and its pastor and bespeak for them continued and increased favors from on high. The annual meeting o the Eastern Washington and North Idaho Association is to meet with this church in April.

Sprague.

The church and people of this place refused to let Rev. G. H. Wilbur leave. A real community interest was created and the people generally worked to provide the salary for the coming year, and at the earnest request of the church and people, Mr. Wilbur has decided to remain. We Bespeak for him a prosperous year.

Evangelist Swift of Chicago has conducted a series of meetings at Trent, and over a score of converts are reported.

Report for 1914 of the labors of Rev. James N. Pendleton, Sunday school missionary: New Sunday schools organized, 11; new Sunday schools reported, 8; new Sunday schools reorganized, 6; total 25.

Number of Sunday schools visited, 49; attendance, 2049; number of superintendents and pastors visited, 82.

Number of Sunday school institutes, workers' meetings and conventions conducted or assisted in, 20; attendance, 1527.

Other meetings held or attended in the interests of the society, 35; number of sermons preached; 75; Number of Sunday-school addresses given, 65; Number of other addresses, 29; total, 169.

Number of miles traveled, 12,323.

Genesee, Idaho.

Rev. A. P. Orth of Genesee, Idaho, has planned a series of sermons to young people as follows: "A Young Woman's Conception of an Ideal Young Man." "A Young Man's Conception of an Ideal Young Woman." "Books, Good and Bad, and Their Influence on Life." "Character: What It Is and How to Build It." "An Ideal Courtship."

THE YEAR IN THE FIRST CHURCH OF OAK PARK, ILLINOIS.

The First Congregational Church of Oak Park, one of the largest residential suburbs of Chicago, is one of the most influential churches of the land. Many of the readers of The Pacific are acquainted with the pastor, the Rev. Dr. William E. Barton, long one of the leaders in Congregationalism. They will be glad to learn that the year 1914 was a notable one in the life of this Oak Park Church. The new "Church House," constructed at a cost of $100,000, an addition to the fine structure built several years ago, has been the center of many activities. While there were no special meetings during the last year there has been a deepening religious life. New members to the number of 129 were received, a number which exactly equals the totals in the year of the Mills meetings. 55 of these were on confession and there was a net gain of 89. The church closed the year with 1136, to which were added January 3rd, 22 men and 22 women, making a total membership at this date of 1180. The success of the evening services continues unabated and the Community Training School is producing a marked effect on the life of the town.

The Home.

WHEN POLY FELL IN LOVE.

Polly, who had been looking moodily out of the window while the other girls had been chatting, turned to me as the outer door closed behind them and said in a tense voice: "There's one thing I wish I could say to every girl in the world. Yet I hadn't the courage to say it to Bess and Mabel, just now.

"Yes," she said—and I saw the brooding look which always makes my heart ache for her—"I wish every girl in the world could be taught the folly, the stupidity and the misery in that old saying which fell so glibly just now from Mabel's lips—you know: "Love is of man's life a thing apart; 'tis woman's whole existence.'

"I guess many women are that way; but it is more a thing to be ashamed of than proud. It is time, it seems to me, that girls had some rational education about love, instead of all the old, sentimental sayings."

I kept thinking about Polly all that evening, and because she herself will never have the courage to tell you why she knows the folly of that old saying about love being the only thing in a woman's life, I am going to tell it for her.

Twelve years ago Polly was the prettiest girl in our town. She was eighteen then—just home from boarding school, and as gay and full of life as could be. Some one called her "a bit of sparkle," and the phrase described her perfectly.

Everybody was fond of Polly. Even the girls who were seriously inclined liked her, although I remember she used to laugh at us when we would talk, as girls always love to do, of the wonderful careers we had planned for ourselves.

"Sillies!" she would say. "Why do you talk of such tiresome things? You'll probably all get married, and what then of your careers? The only thing for us to do is to love and marry. I'm honest enough to say so. That's the only difference between you and me."

When we organized a little class to read the best of contemporary literature and to study social conditions, in which some of the college-girls among us had become interested, Polly said she'd join if she could come for the "spread" and the good time which followed the study period.

And because every one wanted Polly on whatever terms she proposed, we allowed her to complete our membership which was limited to ten, although there were a number of bright girls we knew who were longing to join our club.

When Polly was twenty-one her engagement to Dick Morton was announced. He was a young physician, and, while his practice was growing all the time, he did not have enough for them to marry on; so it was decided that they would wait for two years.

"Some people think I'm foolish," said Polly, "to announce my engagement so far ahead. But why shouldn't I? I'm nothing in the world now but Richard's financee. I don't want to be anything else. For me, there's nothing in the world but him."

For two years Polly had never a hope nor a thought which didn't center about Dick. We girls felt that we had lost her, for she wasn't interested in us nor in anything else but her lover.

She stopped coming to the club, even for the social hour, because sometimes when Dick had a case in the coun-

try he'd drive by for her and she wouldn't run any risk of missing him.

Then, just as Dick's income justified their marriage, he died.

"I feel as if everything in the world had suddenly stopped," sobbed Polly to me. "I don't see how I can go on living."

But somehow broken hearts don't seem to be fatal. For a year or more, we saw little of Polly. A rich aunt took her to Europe, "to help her forget." When she came back we all went to see her and asked her to our little parties and soon she was one of "the crowd" again.

It was three years after Dick's death that Polly told us she was engaged to John Scottson.

Again we, who were her lifelong friends, saw little of her. She was John Scottson's financee; some day she was to be his wife. Those two statements told all there was to tell of Polly.

One day I was asking her why she didn't go on with her drawing. The rich aunt who had taken her to Europe had discovered that Polly had talent.

"Oh, do leave me alone," she said peevishly. "What do I want to go on with that for? It was all right when I was so unhappy and needed something to take my mind off myself. But now I have John and I don't need anything else, thank you."

It seemed to me that Polly did need something else. But to every suggestion she would say that John didn't believe women should be economically independent, that he wasn't particularly interested in art and that her drawing might take some of the time she could otherwise give to him.

I think I saw the end coming before Polly did. Her love seemed to blind her to John's indifference, as it had to everything else.

At last there could be no doubt.

The engagement was broken, and Polly was again broken-hearted. This time there was not the solace there had been when Dick died. Then there had been a romantic glamour around her; she had felt herself as one apart from the rest of us by reason of her great sorrow.

In the nature of things, we could not talk to her about John.

It was not long after Polly gave him back his freedom that John married Nan Gardner—Nan, whose own mother could not call her pretty.

"Nan is the most wonderful girl who ever lived." John said to me, one night. "Why, she opens up new worlds to me all the time. She has read such a lot and can talk in an interesting way on everything under the sun, I do believe.

"Just see how she has worked away in the library to be independent, and all the time longing to do bookbinding! We've bought the Chandler house, and the reason we decided on it is because Nan says the attic will make a perfect studio.

"I tell her I'm jealous of those tools she is so crazy about, but, to tell the truth, she's got me interested in beautiful bindings, too, and I'd never heard of them, hardly, until she began to talk to me about them. I tell you if a girl wants to stay interesting to a man she must be something in herself. Just being his sweetheart isn't enough."

That night I extended to John the sympathy I had at first given only to Polly. I saw why Polly, still the most beautiful girl in town, had not been able to "hold him."

It had never occurred to him, probably, that he had discouraged Polly from being "something in herself." But in justice to John Scottson it must be said that Polly did not need any discouraging. She tried to efface herself in her love and she succeeded.

Some of the people in our town have been quite disagreeable to John and Nan Scottson. But I, whom Polly calls her dearest friend, do not see wherein they are to blame for Polly's wrecked life.

Unrequited love did not come into the world with them, nor will it go out with them. So long as men and women love each other there will always be heart tragedies. It was a miserable mistake—the engagement of Polly and John—and how things would have been bettered if they had married, I do not see.

No man, likes to be placed in the position of a cad, and I know there are people who hold that any man who finds an engagement irksome is in that class. One thing I should like to ask them: Granting that Polly's life is ruined, how would it have helped matters any to have ruined John's and Nan's also? For they truly love each other.

As a matter of fact, John Scottson did not ruin Polly's life. She herself, let it be ruined. It was because she had a perverted idea of love that she is today a bitter, disappointed, heart-weary woman.

I do not wish to underrate her experience. To love and to lose is the saddest thing in life. But other women, many of them, have had love tragedies and have been able to make something beautiful of their lives. Many of them have found peace and happiness.

But they are the women who had resources within themselves. As Polly turned from the memory of Dick to John, so I believe she may yet turn to another love. I am hoping so. There was a time when I would have dreaded it, fearing that Polly would again become absorbed in her love and thus prepare another unhappiness for herself.

But now I have hopes for Polly. Behind the bitterness with which she spoke the other day, there was the hint of a real philosophy of life. It has taken hours of pain and years of unhappiness for Polly to arrive at her conclusions, but just because the lesson has been so hard, I feel that perhaps she has learned it thoroughly.

Polly will never become so bitter that she will not see love as the most wonderful thing in the world. And Polly is right. There is nothing which will take the place of love. It is the biggest thing in a woman's existence; but girls should know that it is not "woman's whole existence."—Charlotte Breeden.

THE PETER-ANNE FEUD.

The Peter-Anne feud had been in existence for a whole month and it promised to spoil a long, beautiful summer. The quarrel started over the possession of the spotted setter puppy.

"Beauty, dear," coaxed Anne, brandishing a chocolate cooky before his nose, "come along with us to the pines."

The puppy gobbled the tidbit, wagged his tail and asked for more, and then Peter whistled from the lane. To do him justice, he did not see his little cousins as the big chestnut tree blocked his view. Beauty wriggled out of Anne's hands and tore through the long grass after Peter and Tom and Gerald. He enjoyed the old swimming hole quite as much as the boys.

Anne was angry, and, of course, Bess and Amy were, as they always copied their big sister Anne exactly.

"Horrid boys," pouted Anne. "Let's not speak to them any more." Both Bess and Amy nodded.

When the boys came back from the pond they demanded a game of croquet. The three little girls kept on reading

(Anne's book was upside down in her lap) and did not lift their heads. The boy cousins thought it was a new kind of joke at first, but in a few minutes they were even angrier than the girls, and the Peter-Anne feud had begun in earnest.

Both sides tried to be just as mean as they could. Peter's PACIFIC AH 7890$ TUES 7890..$ .. .... SEVEN side broke the girls' swing, tore up all the wild lilies and tramped on the moss house.Anne thought and thought of ways to get even. She hid the croquet balls and tucked the fat 'Arabian Nights" book on the top shelf of the linen closet, and she tried to put a chestnut burr in Peter's bed, but she was too much of a lady to do a thing like that and she crept into his room and took it out.

"Dear me," said Grandmother, 'I am glad little Hope is coming."

Both sides thought Hope would be a little girl, but she proved to be nineteen, which is quite old. She had a face that looked as if it belonged to a pansy, but her body was crooked and twisted, and she flitted about on a little crutch. Anne's side claimed little Hope at first. They held her hands and cuddled at her feet as she told stories of Robin Hood and the Knights of Arthur, and Peter's side tried to listen from the other side of the room. It was strange that little Hope always told boys' stories, but of course Peters' side could only listen from a distance, because of the feud By the time little Hope began on the Indian stories the boys hated the feud with all their might.

Litle Hope was a marvelous cook. Not only did she like to make cookies and cakes for the children, but she let the girls help, too. One hot afternoon Anne's side made a wonderful drink which little Anne was sure ought to be called nectar. It was made from lemons, and oranges, and pineapples, and had a rich, wonderful taste.

"Oh Cousin Hope," cried little Anne, "you do so much for us. I wish we could do something for you."

"M-m," murmured Amy and Bess as they sipped their share of nectar.

Little Hope smiled a pansy-like smile. She had been watching three fishermen toil up the lane. Now they had thrown themselves down under the big elm.

"Do you really want to do something for me?" asked little Hope, smiling at Ane's side.

"Yes, yes," cried Anne, Amy and Bess, clapping their hands.

Cousin Hope poured the nectar into three tall blue mugs. "Listen,' she said mysteriously. 'Each of you must tiptoe out to the elm tree, put your mug on the grass, say, 'Surprise,' and then run."

Anne's side had not seen the fishermen come home. Holding the big mugs carefully, they tiptoed out the kitchen door. Anne turned as white as a lily, but a promise is a promise. So she said, "Surprise," very hoarsely, and scampered back to the friendly kitchen and little Hope. Amy and Bess were close at her heels.

Peter's side was very thirsty. They looked at the mugs with big eyes. Cool bits of ice clinked against the sides. "Wait a minute," commanded Peter, "it may be a trick." Tom and Gerald waited anxiously as he first took a little sip and then a very long drink, indeed. By this time they could not wait any longer and the three mugs were emptied in a thrice.

'Let's show our fish to Little Hope,' suggested Peter, and the three started at a brisk trot to the kitchen with a big basket and the blue mugs. They hung their heads as they encountered Anne's side, but Peter stood his ground firmly. "Thank you for the lemonade," he began, "and say, little Hope, we've got a whole basket of fish and we're going to have a bonfire on the rocks and—and—won't you all come?" he blurted.

"To be sure we will," smiled little Hope. "Anne, skip down cellar and get some, potatoes, and Bess, bring me a cup for some butter, and Amy, we'l let you carry the frying pan and we'll have a feast fit for the king."

Both sides stared a little strangely at each other, but they hurried to obey little Hope, and in some way Anne found herself showing Peter just how to fry a fish, and the Peter-Anne feud was burned to a crisp, but fortunately the fish and potatoes were done just right and every one had plenty. And little Hope told a story about some white children who defended their cabin from the Indians.

"Guess we'll build the girls a real playhouse down by the brook tomorrow," proposed Peter.

"And we'll make you some more nectar," returned Anne.

And it is hard to tell whose smiles were bigger, Peter's side or Anne's side.

"Isn't any one perfectly silly to fight?" whispered Anne as she and Hope walked down the hill together.—Mary Davis, in St. Louis Advocate.

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The day is ended; ere I sink to sleep,
My weary spirit seeks repose in Thine;
Father, forgive my trespasses, and keep
This little life of mine.

With loving kindness curtain Thou my bed,
And cool, in rest, my burning pilgrim feet;
Thy pardon be the pillow for my head—
So shall my sleep be sweet.

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